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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP
INTELLIGENCE REPORT

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COUNTRY Czechoslovakia

DATE:

INFO. September-October 1947

SUBJECT Movement to Replace Fierlinger as Social Democratic
Chairman

DIST. 30 October 1947

ORIGIN

25X1A6a

PAGES

SUPPLEMENT

25X1X6

1. An increasing number of prominent Social Democrats are becoming convinced that the leadership provided by Zdenek Fierlinger, the party chairman, is proving to be more of a liability than an asset, especially in matters of internal politics. These leaders realize that the party is failing to take full advantage of its position midway between the Communists and the National Socialists. This is mainly because any cooperation with the National Socialists on important domestic issues is made impossible by the refusal of the latter to have anything to do with Fierlinger, who has a perfect record of full support for the Communists on all internal and external issues.
2. As a result, a movement has started inside the Social Democratic Party to replace Fierlinger as chairman. This will require a very special strategy, as Fierlinger's position is still strong. According to present plans, an attempt will be made to divorce the party chairmanship from any position in the Cabinet, in the hope that Fierlinger will prefer to remain as Deputy Prime Minister in the Government rather than keep his present party position.
3. Frantisek Tynes, present second vice-chairman of the party, is the person most frequently mentioned as a replacement for Fierlinger.

25X1A [REDACTED] According to other reports, Blazej Vilim is also regarded as having a good chance for the Social Democratic chairmanship.)

25X1X [REDACTED] states that the Communists are convinced that Fierlinger will lose his post as party chairman when the Social Democratic convention is held in Brno. It is reported that Fierlinger has already established contacts to regain his position as Ambassador to the USSR.

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Document No.

NO CHANGE in Class.

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CLASS. CHANGED TO

DDA Memo, 4 Apr 77

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This document is hereby regraded to CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with the letter of 16 October 1978 from the Director of Central Intelligence to the Archivist of the United States.

Next Review Date: 2008

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